

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6460

BILL NUMBER: HB 1139

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 8, 2006

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Care of Town Firefighters.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Herrell

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL**

IMPACT: Local

Summary of Legislation: The bill requires a town to pay for the care of a full-time, paid firefighter who suffers an injury or contracts an illness during the performance of the firefighter's duty.

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *Summary-* Under the bill, a town would cover payment for firefighter injuries and illnesses from the town general fund. The impact to town expenditures would depend on the number of town full-time paid firefighters injured or falling ill while performing their duty.

Background- Covered expenditures could include: medical and surgical care; medicines and laboratory, curative, and palliative agents and means; X-ray, diagnostic, and therapeutic service, including services during the recovery period; and hospital and special nursing care if the physician or surgeon in charge considers the care necessary for proper recovery.

The following towns (Cicero, Danville, Fishers, Sheridan, Speedway, and Westfield) are known to have full-time, paid firefighters that could qualify under the proposal. The following table lists staff levels for known town full-time firefighters.

Town	Full-Time Firefighters
Cicero	9
Danville	10
Fishers	100
Sheridan	12
Speedway	30
Westfield	43

Explanation of Local Revenues: A town that has paid for the care of a firefighter may seek reimbursement of the amount paid against any third party against whom the firefighter has a cause of action for an injury or an illness caused by the third party. This provision may result in revenue for the town. The specific impact is indeterminable and would depend on the future qualifying injury or illness sustained by a firefighter and the legal action taken.

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: Towns with full-time paid firefighters.

Information Sources: Tom Hanify, President of the Professional Firefighters Union of Indiana, 630-1840.

Fiscal Analyst: Chris Baker, 317-232-9851.